IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition, for treating a cellulosic material, which comprises a hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester containing at least two phosphorus atoms therein, a melamine-formaldehyde resin, one or more N-methylol functional resin(s), and ~~optionally~~ a curing catalyst.

2. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the curing catalyst is an ammonium salt.

3. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the curing catalyst comprises a mixture of a Lewis acid catalyst and a carboxylic acid.

4. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the carboxylic acid is citric acid.

5. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the Lewis acid catalyst is magnesium dichloride.

6. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the curing catalyst is selected from the group consisting of phosphorus acid and phosphoric acid.

7. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is selected from the group consisting of a mixed phosphate/phosphonate ester CAS No. 70715-06-09 and a phosphate ester formed by reacting triethyl-phosphate, phosphorus pentoxide, ethylene glycol and ethylene oxide.

8. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is a mixed phosphate/phosphonate ester.

9. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is a polyphosphate.

10. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is a polyphosphonate.

11. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the composition contains DMDHEU as the N-methylol functional resin.

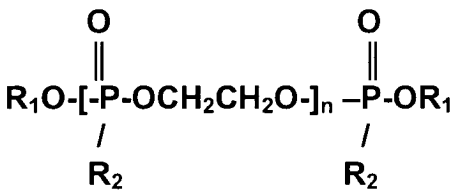
12. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the curing catalyst is an ammonium chloride solution, the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is selected from the group consisting of a mixed phosphate/phosphonate ester of CAS No. 70715-06-09 and a phosphate ester formed by reacting triethyl phosphate, phosphorus pentoxide, ethylene glycol and ethylene oxide, and the composition contains DMDHEU as the N-methylol functional resin.

13. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the curing catalyst comprises a mixture of magnesium dichloride and citric acid, the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is selected from the group consisting of a mixed phosphate/phosphonate ester of CAS No. 70715-06-09 and a phosphate ester formed by reacting triethyl phosphate, phosphorus pentoxide, ethylene glycol and ethylene oxide, and the composition contains DMDHEU as the N-methylol functional resin.

14. (Original) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the curing catalyst is phosphorous acid, the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester is

selected from the group consisting of a mixed phosphate/phosphonate ester of CAS No. 70715-06-09 and a phosphate ester formed by reacting triethyl phosphate, phosphorus pentoxide, ethylene glycol and ethylene oxide and the composition contains DMDHEU as the N-methylol functional resin.

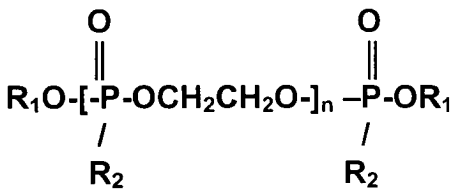
15. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester conforms to the following formula:



where R_1 is independently selected from alkyl and hydroxyalkyl, R_2 is independently selected from alkyl, alkoxy, and hydroxyalkoxy, and n is equal to or greater than 1.

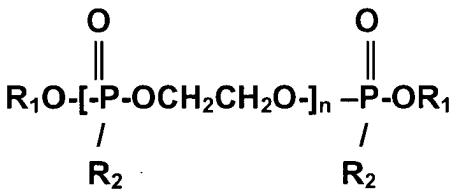
16. (Previously presented) A fabric that has been treated with the composition of Claim 1.

17. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 2 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester conforms to the following formula:



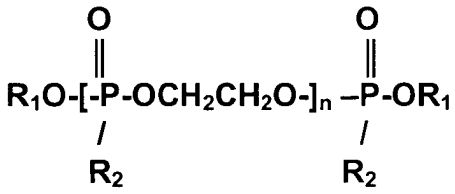
where R_1 is independently selected from alkyl and hydroxyalkyl, R_2 is independently selected from alkyl, alkoxy, and hydroxyalkoxy, and n is equal to or greater than 1.

18. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester conforms to the following formula:



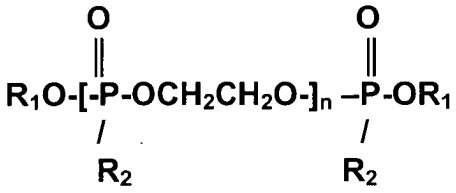
where R_1 is independently selected from alkyl and hydroxyalkyl, R_2 is independently selected from alkyl, alkoxy, and hydroxyalkoxy, and n is equal to or greater than 1.

19. (Previously presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 4 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester conforms to the following formula:



where R_1 is independently selected from alkyl and hydroxyalkyl, R_2 is independently selected from alkyl, alkoxy, and hydroxyalkoxy, and n is equal to or greater than 1.

20. (Previously Presented) A composition as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the hydroxyl-functional phosphorus ester conforms to the following formula:



where R_1 is independently selected from alkyl and hydroxyalkyl, R_2 is independently selected from alkyl, alkoxy, and hydroxyalkoxy, and n is equal to or greater than 1.